



Farmers Exchange

Box 296—Phone 92



MOUNDS, ILLINOIS

December 31, 1945

Mr. Abe Manley
71 Crawford Street
Newark, 2, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Manley: Thanks a million for your most courteous letter of December 22.

You may always rely on me as a firm friend because of your forthright manner in extending to me a chance of getting into the National League again.

I should greatly be interested in your proposition as to going into Brooklyn as a member of the Negro National League and believe that I will have several new faces just out of the army that will add new interest to the league. Moreover, I should rather be alone in this venture, as you know how baseball is and just how costly it is. I have no grudge against operating with the gentleman from New York, but I have always operated all my business alone as most business men of our race are inclined to draw up when big money must be spent. Sometime, there may come about a difference of \$100 or so in obtaining a good player and the other fellow might think that is too much; or maybe some equipment for the club might cost a trifle too much for him or something like that. I believe I am fully able to finance a baseball club in any league and you know personally that I send out my teams dressed and equipped in the best baseball traditions. Too, in the matter of advance money, the ordinary man would not feel like advancing several ball players two or three hundred dollars without knowing for a certainty that he would get it back. So that is the only reason that I want to operate alone.

Try and push this through, I believe all owners in the Negro National League will be willing to accept me as an owner. You may write or wire Pompey to this effect and tell him that Jackson will represent me. I think that you saw him when he was in New York in November. He is my secretary.

Let me know date of meeting.

Thankfully yours,


Allen Johnson

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